

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary #041**

Horse Information: 12-year-old Thoroughbred.

Incident Summary: This horse was working as a pony horse during morning training. The rider turned the horse around on the track, pivoting to the right while leading a racehorse on the left side, and heard a loud pop then the horse was lame. The horse was treated with detomidine, phenylbutazone, and flunixin meglumine. On examination it appeared there was internal hemorrhage in the region of the proximal femur. A femoral fracture was suspected, and radiographs of the distal femur and tibia revealed no significant findings. The horse was euthanized with pentobarbital.

Necropsy Summary: A necropsy revealed left femoral fracture with evidence of callus formation on the third trochanter.

Racing/Training History: This horse slipped and fell down on a cement road 3 weeks prior to the complete fracture. The morning after the fall the horse was lame in a hind limb, and the owner allowed the horse to rest for 1 week. The horse returned to work and felt and appeared sound. The horse did not receive any medication.

Veterinary History Summary: A veterinarian was not contacted after the horse fell several weeks prior to complete fracture, as the horse appeared to recover after a week of rest.

Pre-race Examinations: N/A.

Conclusion: This horse sustained a left femoral fracture, likely secondary to external trauma slipping on concrete several weeks prior to complete fracture. The horse had not been examined by a veterinarian after his fall or before resuming work as a pony horse.